

**House File 2088 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2088

BY STECKMAN,

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**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act authorizing registered nurses and physician assistants

2 to order respiratory therapy.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 148C.4, subsection 1, Code 2011, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. A physician assistant may perform medical services  
4 when the services are rendered under the supervision of a  
5 physician. A physician assistant student may perform medical  
6 services when the services are rendered within the scope of an  
7 approved program. For the purposes of this section, *“medical*  
8 *services when the services are rendered under the supervision of*  
9 *a physician”* includes ~~making~~:

10 a. Making a pronouncement of death for a patient whose death  
11 is anticipated if the death occurs in a licensed hospital, a  
12 licensed health care facility, a Medicare-certified home health  
13 agency, or a Medicare-certified hospice program or facility,  
14 with notice of the death to a physician and in accordance with  
15 the directions of a physician.

16 b. Ordering respiratory therapy.

17 Sec. 2. Section 152.1, subsection 6, Code 2011, is amended  
18 to read as follows:

19 6. The *“practice of the profession of a registered nurse”*  
20 means the practice of a natural person who is licensed by the  
21 board to do all of the following:

22 *a.* Formulate nursing diagnosis and conduct nursing treatment  
23 of human responses to actual or potential health problems  
24 through services, such as case finding, referral, health  
25 teaching, health counseling, and care provision which is  
26 supportive to or restorative of life and well-being.

27 *b.* Execute regimen prescribed by a physician, an advanced  
28 registered nurse practitioner, or a physician assistant.

29 *c.* Supervise and teach other personnel in the performance of  
30 activities relating to nursing care.

31 *d.* Perform additional acts or nursing specialties which  
32 require education and training under emergency or other  
33 conditions which are recognized by the medical and nursing  
34 professions and are approved by the board as being proper to be  
35 performed by a registered nurse.

1 e. Make the pronouncement of death for a patient whose death  
2 is anticipated if the death occurs in a licensed hospital, a  
3 licensed health care facility, a Medicare-certified home health  
4 agency, a Medicare-certified hospice program or facility, an  
5 assisted living facility, or a residential care facility, with  
6 notice of the death to a physician and in accordance with any  
7 directions of a physician.

8 f. Order respiratory therapy.

9 ~~f.~~ g. Apply to the abilities enumerated in paragraphs  
10 "a" through "e" "f" of this subsection scientific principles,  
11 including the principles of nursing skills and of biological,  
12 physical, and psychosocial sciences.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill authorizes registered nurses and physician  
15 assistants to order respiratory therapy.